IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 25, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 12 and 21-24, as set forth below.

The text of all pending claims, along with their current status, is set forth below:

1.   (Currently Amended) A data entry device comprising:

a key having a first data entry value associated with depressing the key;

the key having one or more additional discrete data entry values, each of the one or

more additional discrete data entry values being associated with deflecting the

key in a predetermined direction;

the key having a user readable indication of the first data entry value and each of the

one or more additional discrete data entry values; and

where the key is adapted for being depressed or deflected by a human fingertip.

2.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the first data entry value is a numeric data value and the one or more additional discrete data entry values are alphabetic data values.

3.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the one or more additional discrete data entry values are each associated with a predetermined zone around a periphery of the key.

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4.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the one or more additional discrete data entry values are each associated with an adjustable zone around a periphery of the key.

5.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 4 further comprising a controllable display around the periphery of the key.

6.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 5 wherein the controllable display is an LCD.

7.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 3 wherein the number of predetermined zones is user selectable.

8.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is square in shape and the number of predetermined directions are four.

9.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is circular in shape and the number of predetermined directions are four, six, or eight.

10.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is hexagonal in shape and the number of predetermined directions are six.

11.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 1 wherein the key is octagonal in shape and the number of predetermined directions are eight.

12.   (Currently Amended) A data entry device comprising:

a plurality of keys, each key having a first data entry value associated with depressing

the key; ~~and~~

each key having one or more additional discrete data entry values associated with

deflecting the key in a predetermined direction;~~,~~ and

each key having a user readable indication of the first data entry value and each of the

one or more additional discrete data entry values.

13.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys

comprises ~~is~~ a 12-key telephone numeric keypad, and the additional discrete data entry values

are alphabetic data values.

14.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys is a

three-key watch keypad, and the additional discrete data entry values are numeric data values.

15.   (Original) The data entry device of claim 12 wherein the plurality of keys is a

three-key handheld computer keypad, and the additional discrete data entry values are

representative of a QWERTY keyboard.

16-20. (Canceled).

21.   (Currently Amended) A method of programming a programmable data entry

device, the data entry device having at least one hardware key capable of being depressed and

actuated in at least one additional predetermined direction, wherein a first discrete data entry

value corresponds with depressing the hardware key, the hardware key having a user readable

indication of the first data entry value, the method comprising: ~~providing a soft key in a~~

~~system with a hardware key having more than two states, comprising:~~

> defining a <u>first data zone that is actuated when the hardware key is depressed and at</u>
>
>> <u>least one additional data zone corresponding to the at least one additional</u>
>>
>> <u>predetermined direction, the at least one additional data zone corresponding to</u>
>>
>> <u>an additional discrete data entry value;</u> ~~plurality of data zones, each of the~~
>>
>> ~~plurality of data zones corresponding to one of the states of the hardware key;~~
>
> <u>generating a display that includes a user readable indication corresponding to the</u>
>
>> <u>additional discrete data entry value, the user readable indication being</u>
>>
>> <u>indicative of the at least one additional predetermined direction;</u>
>
> <u>wherein data corresponding to the additional discrete data entry value is generated</u>
>
>> <u>when a user moves the hardware key in the predetermined direction.</u>
>
> ~~performing a user selection test of the data zones;~~
>
> ~~notifying the user if the user selection test produces acceptable results;~~
>
> ~~configuring a plurality of soft key data values corresponding to the data zones; and~~
>
> ~~generating a soft key display based on the data zones.~~

22.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim <u>21</u> ~~20~~, <u>comprising:</u> ~~wherein the~~

~~user selection test prompts the user to select each of the data zones, and~~

> <u>performing a test to determine if the at least one additional data zone is capable of</u>
>
>> <u>being effectively actuated; and</u>
>
> <u>wherein an acceptable result produced by the test indicates that the at least one</u>
>
>> <u>additional data zone is capable of being effectively actuated and an</u>
>>
>> <u>unacceptable result produced by the test indicates that the at least one</u>
>>
>> <u>additional data zone is not capable of being effectively actuated.</u> ~~the user can~~

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